Registration And Other **Information**

Program Format:

Our programs are interdisciplinary and we make every attempt to integrate an outdoor component with most lessons. You may select one program for your field trip. The length of your day is indicated in the program description. We will do our best to complete all programs during the length of your visit.

MarshAccess:

Most school programs are available for students with special education needs through our MarshAccess program. The incorporation of specialized program adaptations and assistive technologies ensures that all learners can participate. Please indicate "MarshAccess" on the registration form under Class Information. Class size is limited to 15 students with at least one chaperone for every 5 students.

Fee and Payment: Program fee is \$3.50 per student. There is no charge to teachers and chaperones. We ask that there be at least 1 adult for every 10 students; kindergarten classes must have 1 chaperone for every 6 students.

PAYMENT POLICY!! Payment in full must be received 2 weeks prior to your visit in the form of cash, money order, or a check payable to the Meadowlands Environment Center.

If a purchase order is required to initiate payment, please forward a copy, with all relevant trip information, to our attention for signature. Your payment must be made for the exact number of pre-registered students regardless of the number of students in attendance.

Cancellation Policy:

Cancellations must be made in writing within 10 working days prior to your trip date. The letter can be faxed to 201-842-0630 or e-mailed to NO CANCELLATIONS will be taken over the phone. If a cancellation is received after 10 working days, a refund will not be issued.



All school program registration will now be taken via our web-site only! We will not be taking registrations by phone.

Registration will open on Monday, October 15th for Winter and Spring field trips. (Nov. 17th through Dec. 7th, Jan. 7th through June 27th).

Trips are scheduled on a first come first served basis. Before logging on, please have the following information with you:

- Your program date
- An alternate date
- Grade level
- Number of students*
- Number of classes
- School name
- School phone
- Registering teacher's name
- Contact phone and fax numbers
- Contact E-mail
- Address to send confirmation to
- Program choice
- * We ask that you keep classes to their regular size. Students will have a better experience if class sizes are kept below 30.

Trip Preparation:

Some program choices may have a Pre/ Post Lesson Package available. These should be used to prepare your students for their field trip. Packages contain background information, assessment activities, NJCCCS, and important vocabulary words. Click under the "Educator" tab to access the Pre/Post Lesson plans.

Questions:

Any questions regarding programs should be e-mailed to: education@njmeadowlands.gov.

For specific information on our education programs visit our website at:

www.njmeadowlands.gov/ec



Environment Center Hours: Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 Saturday & Sunday 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m

group and other classes coming with you. Please list each class individually and include any information that would be helpful for us to know. If your student(s) requires any disability related accommodations for equal access to this program please call 201-460-8300 two weeks prior to your program to

weather permitting Trails Open Daily

Visitour website at www.njmeadowlands.gov/ec



Phone: 201-460-8300 Fax: 201-842-0630



Program Selections



MARSH MUCKERS

(Grades K-1)

Visit the salt marsh and meet the animals that make this amazing habitat their home. Students will interact with live specimens, collecting then sorting them according to observations they make. Later, through interactive storytelling, they'll be introduced to the salt marsh food chain, a concept that will be reinforced with a take-home craft. Indoor (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM) NJCCCS: 3.4, 4.1, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6,

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

INCREDIBLE INSECTS

(Grades 1-3)

Learn about the largest group of animals in the world. Classification, life cycles. and characteristics will be investigated. Students will collect and study live insects and discuss their role in local habitats. *Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM – 1:00 PM)*

NJCCCS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

PAWS AND CLAWS, **BEAKS AND FEET**

(Grades 1-3)

Whose feet are designed for swimming? Whose beak is better for eating worms? What good is a shell anyway? Find out how plants and animals survive in the salt marsh. Through cooperative learning and hands-on experimentation, students will investigate plant and animal adaptations. Indoor (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM)

NJCCCS: 3.3, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.



MARSH EXPLORERS

(Grades 2-3) April-November

Get immersed in the salt marsh habitat. Following an introduction to this unique wetland community, students will act as field biologists, collecting and identifying live specimens. As a means of developing their observational skills, students will next be challenged to recognize geometric shapes in the specimens caught as well as in other elements of nature. Through various sketching exercises they will then learn to effectively render drawings of their observations of nature.

Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM) NJCCCS: 3.3, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10 Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

December-March

What happens to the plants and animals in the salt marsh when winter comes? Come find out first-hand. After an introduction to this unique habitat, students will explore in-depth animals' survival methods, then venture outdoors to look for evidence of these adaptations in action.

Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:00 PM) NJCCCS: 3.3, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

ASTOUNDING ADAPTATIONS

(Grades 4-6)

What helps animals and plants survive in the wild? Through live animal interaction, tool manipulation, and cooperative work, students will investigate the ways animals obtain food, move, and protect themselves in their environment. Students will also participate in a dynamic activity to create animals that can survive in the salt marsh. Indoor (10:00 AM – 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.3, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.



PEEK AT THE PAST

(Grades 4-6)

Come discover how the early settlers lived in the Meadowlands. Students will become junior archaeologists as they uncover and analyze artifacts. This interpretive journey will allow students to identify natural resources from the past and present. Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.3, 3.5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.10, 6.2, 6.5, 6.9

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

PLANKTON ODYSSEY Grades 4-6)

Go micro with this program that introduces the roles and diversity of plankton in estuaries and other aquatic environments. Regardless of microscope experience, students will learn how to use this

important tool to observe and identify live aquatic specimens. We will also investigate in more depth the role of plankton in the life cycles of many aquatic organisms. Metamorphosis, producers, and consumers all come into play in a kinesthetic activity about the estuary food web.

Indoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10



WORMS & FRIENDS EAT OUR GARBAGE

(Grades 4-6)

Get down and dirty in this program that introduces you to the inhabitants of our compost bin and the benefits of composting. Unearth the secrets to vermicomposting and discover how Wiggly Organic Recycling MachineS (WORMS) convert kitchen scraps and vard trimmings into nutrient rich soil. Indoors, we will use stereomicroscopes and hand lenses to discover these critters and their incredible anatomy. Outdoors, we will collect, observe, and classify live arthropod specimens. We will also discuss how decomposers play an important role in our local habitat.

Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.1, 3.2, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.



ESTUARY EXPLORERS

(Grades 4-8) April-November

Come discover the salt marsh! Field experiences will have students testing water samples, collecting live specimens, and examining plant life. Food chains, adaptations, and wetland values will be discussed. Students will also use their observational skills to capture the natural

environment through field sketching. *Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM – 1:30 PM)* NJCCCS: 3.3. 5.1. 5.4. 5.5. 5.6. 5.8. 5.10 Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

December-March

Discover how our local estuary adapts to the changing seasons. Students will conduct tests on estuary water and participate in a winter salt marsh scavenger hunt. Food chains/webs and wetland values will be discussed.

Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.3, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

GO WITH THE FLOW

(Grades 7-8)

Look into the murky waters of our local estuary in this program that introduces the roles and diversity of plankton in aguatic environments. Even with limited microscope experience, students will refine their skills with this important tool while viewing live, mobile specimens. Observation, recording, and identification will follow. We will also investigate in more depth adaptations of plankton to maintain a wanderer's existence, including a team challenge to Design-a-Drifter and test its performance.

Indoor (10:00 AM – 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10



ECOLOGY OF THE ESTUARY

(Grades 9-12) April-November

Explore the interconnected life of the salt marsh community. Through field experience, water chemistry, and data analysis, students will discover the values and function of wetlands and estuaries. Students will also use their observational

All programs include a lunch recess In between

skills to capture the natural environment through field sketching. Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM)

NJCCCS: 3.2, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

December-March

Explore the seasonal variability of an estuarine community. Students will conduct water tests to discover the hidden relationships and values of our tidal wetlands. Food chains/webs, wetland values, and resource management will be

Indoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.2, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10

Available as a MarshAccess program selection.

FISH MURDER MYSTERY

(Grades 9-12)

In this exciting and challenging program, students solve a fish kill mystery in the Hackensack River. Using hands-on water sampling techniques and problem-based learning strategies, students decide who is responsible for causing a massive fish kill. Indoor/Outdoor (10:00 AM - 1:30 PM) NJCCCS: 3.1, 3.3, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4. 5.6. 5.8. 5.10. 6.5

